

In the Claims

1-45 (canceled).

46 (new). A method for treating a fibrotic disease comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and:

- 1) polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) SEQ ID NO: 2, 5, 7 or 10;
 - b) SEQ ID NO: 3, 6, 8 or 11;
 - c) a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 or 11; and
 - d) a polypeptide that has at least 90% identity to a polypeptide of (a) to (c) and inhibits TNF-related apoptosis-inducing ligand/Apo2 ligand (TRAIL).

47 (new). The method according to claim 46, wherein the fibrotic disease is a connective tissue disease, lung fibrosis or liver fibrosis.

48 (new). The method according to claim 46, wherein the polypeptide is glycosylated at one or more sites.

49 (new). The method according to claim 46, wherein the polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 3 is a fusion protein.

50 (new). The method according to claim 49, wherein the fusion protein comprises an immunoglobulin Fc region fused to SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 3.

51 (new). The method according to claim 46, wherein the polypeptide has at least 90% identity to SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 3 and inhibits TNF-related apoptosis-inducing ligand/Apo2 ligand (TRAIL) and is a fusion protein.

52 (new). The method according to claim 51, wherein the fusion protein comprises an immunoglobulin Fc region fused to the polypeptide that has at least 90% identity to SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 3.

53 (new). The method according to claim 46, wherein the polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 2.

54 (new). The method according to claim 46, wherein the polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 3.

55 (new). The method according to claim 46, wherein the polypeptide consists of SEQ ID NO: 2.

56 (new). The method according to claim 46, wherein the polypeptide consists of SEQ ID NO: 3.

57 (new). The method according to claim 46, wherein the composition further comprises an interferon.

58 (new). The method according to claim 57, wherein the interferon is interferon- β .

59 (new). The method according to claim 46, wherein a composition comprising an interferon is administered to said patient simultaneously, sequentially, or separately.